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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application

Albert John DZERMEJKO et al

Serial No.: To be assigned (National Phase of
PCT/EP00/03505)

Filed: March 12, 2002

For: COOLING PANEL FOR A SHAFT FURNACE, SHAFT FURNACE PROVIDED WITH COOLING
PANELS OF THIS NATURE, AND A PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SUCH A COOLING PANEL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

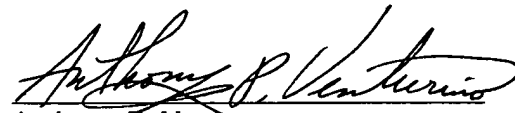
Pursuant to Rules 56 and 98, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. These references were cited in the application and in an International Search Report (copy attached) in the corresponding International application.

Applicants present these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 12, 2002

By:



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